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ASTM F747-1997: Standard Practice for Ownership and Operation of Amusement Rides and Devices
as required by:
State of Pennsylvania, 7 PAC 139.41
State of Michigan, MAC R 408.802 Rule 3
State of Oregon, OAR 918-200-0070

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Standard Terminology Relating to Amusement Rides and Devices[1]

This standard is issued under the fixed designation F 747; the number immediately following the designation indicates the year of original adoption or, in the case of revision, the year of last revision. A number in parentheses indicates the year of last reapproval. A superscript epsilon (ε) indicates an editorial change since the last revision or reapproval.

accepted engineering practice—that which conforms to accepted principles, tests, or standards of nationally recognized technical or scientific authorities.

air-supported structure—an amusement device that incorporates a structural and mechanical system and employs a high-strength fabric or film that achieves its strength, shape, and stability by pretensioning with internal air pressure, all of which are intended to provide an enclosed area for the self enjoyment of those so confined within.

amusement ride or amusement device—a device or combination of devices or elements that carry, convey, or direct a person(s) over or through a fixed or restricted course or within a defined area, for the primary purpose of amusement or entertainment.

carnival—a mobile enterprise principally devoted to offering amusement or entertainment to the public in, upon, or by means of portable amusement rides or devices or temporary structures in any number or combination, whether or not associated with other structures or forms of public attraction.

circular ride—an amusement ride whose motion is primarily rotary in a fixed or variable plane from horizontal to 45° above horizontal.

control access system—a device, barrier or mechanism that prohibits unauthorized activation of a ride or device control system.

fence—a type of barrier consisting of, but not limited to, posts, boards, wire, stakes, or rails that is used to inhibit patrons from coming into contact with the moving portion or restricted portion of an amusement ride or device.

flat-ride—an amusement ride that operates on a single level whether over a controlled, fixed course or track, or confined to a limited area of operation.

high ride—an amusement ride whose motion is in a fixed or variable plane from horizontal to vertical.

kiddie ride—an amusement ride designed primarily for use by children up to 12 years of age.

major modification—any change in either the structural or operational characteristics of the ride or device which will alter its performance from that specified in the manufacturer's design criteria.

minor modification—any change that does not alter the structural or operational characteristics of the ride or device nor change its performance from that specified in the manufacturer's design criteria.

operator—the person having direct control of the starting, stopping, or speed of an amusement ride.

unscheduled cessation—a rare, unusual, or irregular stopping of an amusement ride operation, intentional or otherwise, that is considered abnormal or potentially hazardous in nature, or both, due to its cause, method, or result.

[1] These definitions are under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee F24 on Amusement Rides and Devices and are the direct responsibility of Subcommittee F24.20 on Terminology.

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